

LONG ISLAND FORUM



GUILD HALL, EAST HAMPTON
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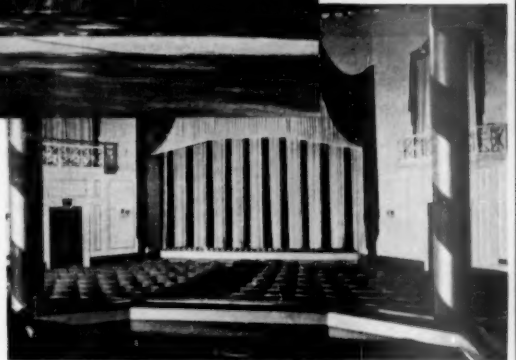


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**THE
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FOR LONG ISLANDERS EVERYWHERE

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Island's French Miller

Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood

Pierre Rene Villefeu was born
 in France July 25, 1828 and came
 to Southampton, L. I., about 1860.
 His wife Margaret was a second
 cousin of Gen. Nathaniel Green
 of American Revolutionary fame.

Villefeu conducted gristmills at
 several places in Suffolk County,
 served as a Republican deputy
 sheriff at one time and died at
 Babylon in 1915 at the ripe old
 age of 87.

From Southampton he went to
 Ashamomoque (between Greenport
 and Southold) where he acquired
 on a purchase money mortgage
 the tidewater mill of Charles C.
 and George W. White of New York
 City. He turned the mill back on a
 quit claim deed Dec. 16, 1863.

Next we find him running the
 Great Western mill which stood
 near the juncture of the roads
 from Peconic, Hog Neck and Pine
 Neck.

During this period of his life
 Villefeu lived in a cottage which
 he owned situated a half-mile from
 the mill, just north of the grocery
 store, familiar to this writer in
 his youth, then conducted by J. B.
 Fanning on the easterly side of
 Main street about opposite the
 now silent blacksmith shop of
 Cleveland and Glover.

The mill was burned during the
 summer of 1870. Thereafter Ville-
 feu conducted similar mills at
 Islip, Amityville and Babylon. His
 lease of Southards' mill in the
 westerly part of Babylon expired
 Dec. 1, 1877. He was then solicit-
 ing continuance of favors at the
 Oakley Mills.

He retained title to his South-
 old cottage for some years after
 he left there. In 1902 he sold it to
 Ernest Leicht who had moved his
 family there from Mattituck in
 September 1900. Villefeu was then
 living at Babylon where he died
 in 1915. Margaret Villefeu had
 died there the previous year. They
 left four daughters:

Eugenie, Zilpha, Helene and Rene.

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Thomas Moran, Painter, Etcher

WHEN Thomas "Yellowstone" Moran died in Santa Barbara, California, in his ninetieth year on August 25, 1926, he closed his eyes on a long life of creative work, rich in achievement. With brush and palette he worked to the end, and like Corot, lying supine in bed in his last hours, he envisioned and discussed still-to-be-painted landscapes on the ceiling.

At his death Thomas Moran was the oldest member of the National Academy of Design, and he was acknowledged as the "Dean of American Artists." Two giant landscapes from his brush, *The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone* and *The Chasm of the Colorado*, had been purchased by Congress for \$10,000 apiece and adorned the gallery of the Senate wing in the Capitol at Washington. His *Mountain of the Holy Cross*, inspired by the mysterious peak crested with the glittering cross in

Dr. Charles A. Huguenin

central Colorado, had won for him a gold medal and diploma at the Centennial Exposition in 1876, and other works earned prizes at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, at the Pan-American Exposition in 1901, and at the Convention of the American Art Society of Philadelphia in 1902.

As an etcher he had reaped a fame second only to that as a painter, and to the end he retained his supremacy among artist-etchers of America. The English art critic John Ruskin, whose reputation as a close observer of nature was international, had pronounced one of Moran's plates, a marine depicting a wave beating on a shore, not only the best that had come from America, but the best that modern art had produced. Moran's *Gate of Venice* was declared one of the largest and most complete drawings upon copper ever executed with a needle and acid.

Other less noteworthy accomplishments included his founding of the New York Etching Club and his advocacy for a national art gallery, which impelled Mr. Rogers of Paterson in New Jersey to donate \$6,000,000 to the Metropolitan Art Museum of New York for this purpose.

But the achievement that overshadowed all others was to awaken the American people to a consciousness of the wide expanses of wilderness and the natural resources of beauty that lay in the Great West. In 1871 when he was thirty-four he provided himself with a six-shooter, a holster, and an army canteen and joined Professor F. V. Hayden's U. S. Geological Survey Expedition to the Yellowstone as guest-illustrator. This region, shunned by Indians as a sink of infernal vapors and a haunt for bugaboos, was then unexplored territory. In 1806 one of Lewis and Clark's soldiers, John Colter, had returned with strange reports of hot fountains and pools of yellow, pink, and green mud too fantastic for belief. Jim Bridger, a colorful old frontiersman, had made his reputation as a liar largely with his descriptions of the weirdness of Yellowstone.

Moran's accurate, first-hand, topographical landscapes of the Yellowstone Region offered indisputable proof of its uncanny attraction and imposing grandeur. They made the American people aware of their own heritage of landscape, to be prized and conserved. Yellowstone National Park, the first of our national parks, was created the following year, in 1872, as a result of the public interest in the natural wonders of the West, stimulated by Moran's canvasses. As the National Park Movement grew in scope, Moran came to

Editorial Note

Guild Hall, East Hampton, dedicated in 1931, contains the Thomas Moran Gallery. Here one may view some of his originals and his own large portrait.

The Hall, to quote Miss Dorothy Quick, author and poet, writing in the Forum in 1940, "is a long low building with great depth, of white painted brick. It has an artistic entrance above which the dome of the theatre rises impressively. It is called the John Drew Theatre in honor of the distinguished thespian who summured in East Hampton for many years."

Thomas Moran's earliest sojourn at East Hampton was at "Rowdy Hall" which received its name back in the 1880's because it served as the summer habitation of a number of artists, some of whom with true Bohemian taste kept late hours, played a bit of stud-poker and indulged to some extent in spirituous beverages.

The ancient salt-box cottage which then stood beside the Presbyterian Church has since been restored and moved to the corner of David and Egypt lanes, on the Hamlin estate. It is still affectionately known to villagers as "Rowdy Hall."



Thomas Moran, East Hampton
Artist

Winning popularity as an illustrator of books and magazines, he produced several thousands of drawings, in one year turning out as many as 250 book illustrations. Among the best of these are his pictorial elucidations for Longfellow's "Hiawatha" and Whittier's "Mabel Martin."

be regarded as the "Father of the National Parks."

The first journey determined Moran's future career. Again and again the wild, majestic scenery of the West drew him like a magnet for many subsequent trips. Years later, his daughter was impelled to write in an impression of her father: "He seemed always to be starting off or coming back from strange, beautiful places, wild countries."

In the summer of 1873 he accompanied another geological expedition under Major J. W. Powell down the then little-known Colorado River. He maintained that of all places on earth the Canyon of Arizona was the most inspiring in its pictorial possibilities. Companions of these territorial surveys called him "Yellowstone Moran," a sobriquet that stuck.

Because of his attempts to transpose on canvas the magic of the Western Wonderland, his name is linked, beside Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon, with Yosemite, Zion, and Grand Teton national parks and with the following national monuments: the Mountain of the Holy Cross, Devil's Tower in Wyoming, and the Petrified Forest in Arizona. Mount Moran in the Teton Range perpetuates his name, and there are Moran points in the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and Yosemite national parks. Only poor health in his eighty-eighth year prevented his accompanying Stephen Tyng Mather, Director of the National Park Service of the Department of Interior, to Bryce Canyon to capture on more canvas the elusive beauty of the newest of our national parks.

"Go West, young man!" was Moran's admonition to the tyro in painting who might be tempted to imitate the artists of the Hudson River School. To the tourist he was the most persuasive herald of that movement which has become popular un-

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The Sculpturing of Long Island

LONG ISLAND provides an ideal opportunity for the backyard explorer who would investigate the riddle of its geologic past. Every feature of its landscape is the product of natural forces that have sculptured it to its present form, and many of these are still at work, with the result that it is continually changing.

Although the work of depositing the sediments to form its lower strata, and the chiseling out of the valley that would contain the waters of Long Island Sound was accomplished much earlier, the events that fashioned the island to the form we know today occurred within the last million years. These included the advance of at least four glaciers during the Ice Age, and the subsequent action of rain, wind, waves and off-shore currents. In this article I shall deal mainly with the events of the Ice Age.

While the broad picture seems fairly well established, many details are not clear, and it is certain that further study will indicate some revisions.

The Ice Age commenced toward the close of that long span of geologic time called the Cenozoic Era, or just before the beginning of the so-called Pleistocene Period. For centuries the climate had been getting colder. This was not a local condition, but was felt throughout the northern hemisphere. The ice of the Labrador peninsula and northern Canada began advancing south. Although gradual at first, this movement persisted through thousands of years, and with the lowering temperatures the depth of the ice increased as it slowly pushed forward, sweeping up vast quantities of earth materials that lay in its path.

There was no one on hand at the time to observe and

Robert R. Coles

Editor's Note

Introduced as contributing editor of the L. I. Forum, Mr. Coles was interviewed by Martha Deane on station WOR on October 30 in reference to his geologic articles in the Forum and other phases of the island's distant past. He is indeed a recognized authority on these subjects as well as on astronomy, having served some years as head of the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History.

record the story of the many conflicting forces involved, and the problem of reconstructing it today from the evidence contained in the complex arrangement of sands, gravels and clays is extremely difficult. This is particularly true of the effects of the two earlier glacial stages, many of which have been covered up or destroyed by the later ones.

The last comprehensive work on the subject, "The Geology Of Long Island", by Myron L. Fuller, was published by the U. S. Geological Survey in 1914. In this he

names the glacial stages as follows, beginning with the earliest: the Mannetto, the Jameco, the Manhasset and the Wisconsin. Between these were times of relatively milder climate, called interglacial periods, during which the ice melted and the action of streams caused extensive erosion with much shifting about of the earth materials.

The debris associated with these glacial stages and interglacial periods is distinguished by the type of sand, gravel, boulders and clays they contain, their relation to nearby deposits, and other features recognized by the geologist. Due to its involved nature such identification is very difficult and often problematical.

The first, or Mannetto glacial stage, was so named because of a prominent exposure of its gravels at Mannetto Hill, west of Melville. While later events have removed much of the material deposited by this glacier, it is exposed today at a few places on the island and has been



MONTAUK SHOWS SCULPTURING

identified elsewhere in well borings.

It is not known exactly where the advancing front of this glacier stopped, although Fuller suggests that "it may have halted in the Sound trough a little north of the present edge of the island." If this was the case, the gravels and sands were probably exuded from its leading edge and spread south as it melted.

During the post-Mannetto interglacial period the climate moderated for a long time, streams flowed out from the glacier and large quantities of debris were shifted from their former position.

The second glacial advance was named the Jameco stage because its gravels were first discovered in deep wells at the Jameco pumping station, near Jamaica. Although no surface deposits of this material have been recognized on the island, its gravels have been identified in many well borings and are particularly noticeable in a broad depression beneath the surface between Jamaica and Whitestone. They have also been found in exposures on Block Island, Marthas Vineyard and Cape Cod. Geologists seem to be of the opinion that this glacier did not invade Long Island, but probably halted in the Sound valley to the north.

During the warmer period following the Jameco glacial stage there occurred much erosion and shifting of earlier deposits, due to lively stream action, with the deposition of large quantities of clay and sand in many parts of the island. These deposits are known to geologists as Gardiners clay and Jacob sand. As in the case of the materials associated with the first interglacial period, they add greatly to the complexity of the picture and are too involved for discussion here.

To the casual observer the first two glacial stages—the Mannetto and the Jameco—are of little more than academic interest since they do not add greatly to the more

conspicuous features of the island's topography, as we know it today. The last two, however, have played an important part in molding it to its present form. It is to the work of these that we are indebted for our extensive plateaus, rolling hills, picturesque valleys and broad plains.

The third glacial stage was named the Manhasset because its sands and gravels are prominently exposed in the extensive gravel banks at Port Washington, on the eastern or Hempstead Harbor side of Manhasset Neck.

The materials deposited by this glacier are of different nature at various levels, indicating that they were probably laid down during succeeding stages of its advance.

The most outstanding effect of the Manhasset glacier is the great plateau along the north shore of the island from the western end to Orient Point, with steep bluffs that face the Sound throughout much of its extent. Other plateaus of the same deposit are evident on the South Fluke of Long Island and on Robbins, Shelter, Plum, Fishers and Gardiners islands.

There is no doubt that the Manhasset glacier invaded Long Island in many places and was of long duration. By far the larger part of the glacial material above sea level on the island was deposited by this glacier, much of which underlies the later debris of the Wisconsin advance.

There was another moderation of climate following the Manhasset glacial stage that resulted in extensive erosion of existing materials and the deposition of sands bearing various types of marine fossils. These are called the Vineyard deposits by geologists.

The name of the last, or Wisconsin glacial stage, which shows evidence of having covered much of the northern portion of the continent, is derived from extensive de-

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Grandfather's Christmas Pudding

MY Uncle Crowell had been a drummer boy with Colonel Rush Hawkins' New York Zouaves. In after years he sometimes wore his battered red fez when he came to visit Father's sister, and the girls of the family would try it on to feel chic, and the boys would try it on to feel brave.

It was about this time, 1874, that Grandfather first conceived of the Christmas pudding.

He had recently moved his family, a wife, three boys and three girls, to a dowdy old house, rectangular in shape, high and massive, with gaunt locust trees thrusting limbs over the mansard roof to the cobwebbed windows of the cupola. Out front, the picket fence had been breached by dogs and decay, the wintering grasses blew rustily along the brick paths, the drain pipes from the gutters on the roof had lost their rain barrels and before their unretained flow small areas of the yard had gone to gravel.

With my father's room went a hook in the lintel and the legend of a suicide in some unhappy long ago. To a boy of six, rather wispy of body and romantic of mind, the hook and the whispering winds along the eaves, the jungle of peach trees entangling branches below near the backyard's white-washed fence, were dreadfully impressive.

What saved the household from gloom altogether were the antics of my Grandfather, who was a somewhat sentimental scholar, a reader of ancient history and Ralph Waldo Emerson, a naturalist with regard for every uncommon tree or flower. At home or on the job he talked well and freely. It was said of him that he had read the Bible twenty-seven times, which was probably no exaggeration, for the syntax and poetics of

Alonzo Gibbs



English Renaissance style flavored his speech.

Such a man, grave yet childlike, could easily fix his mind on a Christmas pudding. And to Uncle Crowell sitting under his fez in the kitchen with his feet against the glowing station agent stove, Grandfather, one November evening, first mentioned it.

You see, Great-great-grandfather had come from England and had been an itinerant preacher in Brooklyn, Bellport, and Patchogue. Out of this English background came a robust spirit, an intemperate liking for food, a desire to keep the Christmas season, and a wish to do no thing by halves.

So Grandfather, on that November night, saw in his lively imagination the dining room table stretched to take its last leaf; the much-laundered white linen cloth glistening upon it; a fragrant turkey, golden brown and crispy beside cranberries ruby-red in cut-glass dishes; the soft candlelight shadowing expectant faces of invited and uninvited relatives; the ironing board bridging the gap between two chairs and sagging under a bouncing overload of eager children awaiting the pudding's flaming entrance.

Uncle Crowell, a soft-spoken, practical, Toms River man, saw none of this magic or little of it. He heard the

talismanic word which so stirred Grandfather, regarded it momentarily, and let it slip away without disproportionate contemplation. His pipe went out and he left for home, not knowing as he followed the path through the backyard where the icy limbs of the wild peach trees clacked together, that his intended father-in-law, still rosy with the warmth of dream and fire in the hot kitchen, was celebrating Christmas a month before it was due.

Next night at dinner Grandfather told Grandmother of his plan for a small pudding. "It won't be an extravagance," he said. "I'll bring home a little of this and a little of that from time to time and by Christmas we'll have all the ingredients."

And true to his word he brought the pudding home in parts: a pound of walnuts one week, a pound of currents another, suet, raisins, cherries, cinnamon, cloves, all spice, flour, each examined lovingly by Grandfather for quality or tenderness, sampled for taste, and stowed away in the bulging cupboard.

At length, a week before Christmas, Grandfather took from his coat pocket a small bottle of brandy, assured Grandmother it would only be lit, not drunk, and poured the contents into a glass-stoppered decanter. He held the brandy then above the kerosene lamplight to see that it was pure and to watch the yellow rays penetrate its amber depths. "Tomorrow," he said, "the pudding shall be made!"

But Grandmother was shocked on the morrow to find that Grandfather in his childish delight had carried home pound after pound of ingredients, so gradually over so long a period of time,

Continued on page 237

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Gay Nineties on the Sound

I have some comments to make on Capt. Eugene Griffing's story of his trip up the Sound to New York in 1891 (Oct. Forum). I arrived in Greenport two years later and for the next three years I saw the steamers Portland and Amagansett almost every week during the fishing seasons. Late Friday afternoons and all day Saturdays they would come into Greenport and the dock would be lined with fishing steamers, sometimes in double rows. It was not necessary to go to the dock to see them for any good nose in the village could detect their presence.

I have boarded many of the steamers and no doubt the two named were among them. I have also seen the cook come out of the galley many a time and grasp the whistle cord to summon the crew to meals. The fleet left Greenport about 1896 or 1897 to make its headquarters at Tiverton, Rhode Island.

The Shinnecock was built after I left Greenport but I have had more than one sail on her, once in 1903 to an International Yacht Race off Sandy Hook. I wonder if Capt. Mark Griffing of Shelter Island, who sailed the steamer Long Island between Sag Harbor and New London, belonged to Capt. Eugene's family.

John Tooker
Babylon

Each issue the Forum grows better. James F. Merriwell, Jamaica.

L. I. FORUM INDEX

The Queens Borough Public Library, 89-14 Parsons Blvd., Jamaica, sells a complete index of the Long Island Forum for the years 1938-1947 inclusive, at \$1 postpaid. Also for the years 1948-1952 inclusive, at 50 cents postpaid. They were compiled by Miss Marguerite V. Doggett, Librarian L. I. Collection, and may be obtained by addressing her at the Library.

Dominy Genealogy

A complete history of the Dominy and allied families will be available about January 1, 1955. Representing a labor of more than twenty years, it covers the period from 1630 to the present day, as well as the three branches of the Dominy family, namely: the original Long Island; the Beekmantown of Clinton County, N. Y., and the Ohio, an offshoot of the two mentioned.

The comprehensive, illustrated volume, a unique achievement in photo-engraving and typography, will sell at \$25 postpaid. No remittance need accompany orders at this time.

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Sculpturing

Continued From Page 226

posits in the state of that name.

It is this glacier that has produced the most outstanding effects on Long Island, including the double chain of hills that form its so-called "backbone" and the broad plains that have witnessed such great advances in the development of aviation.

There is abundant evidence that the ice of the Wisconsin glacier spread over the region that is now Long Island, where its front extended from the western end, more or less laterally through the center of the island, then along the Southern Fluke and beyond. It has been estimated that at the time of its maximum coverage its ice was perhaps 1,000 feet thick and that the climate in the vicinity of its front was extremely severe. This part of the world was locked in a deep freeze that would make the famous blizzard of eighty-eight seem like a summer squall.

Along that line it deposited vast quantities of debris, in the form of sand, gravel and boulders, to form the chain of hills that we know today as the Ronkonkoma moraine. As the glacier melted more sand and gravel spread out before it to the south, to produce the great outwash plain that extends to the south shore, upon which many of our modern housing developments are built and where Roosevelt and Mitchel Fields are located.

After several thousand years the weather moderated and the front of the glacier retreated throughout its extent, east of Lake Success. It receded some distance to the north, beyond the present North Shore of Long Island. Later, however, there was another drop in temperature and the front again advanced, but this time came to rest generally somewhat north of the position reached by the first advance. There it rested for a long time and deposited the

earth materials to build up the chain of hills known today as the Harbor Hill moraine. These run lengthwise of the island and are only a few miles inland from the Sound to the west, but appear near the north shore farther east and continue out the North Fluke to Orient Point. Sands and gravels exuded from the advancing edge of this glacier spread to the south to form an outwash plain very similar in nature to that of the Ronkonkoma moraine.

Again the climate moderated and the Wisconsin glacier retreated to the north, bringing the Ice Age to a close. Although no one knows exactly how long ago the ice of the last glacier retreated, it has been estimated at somewhere around twenty-five thousand years ago.

This is the story in barest outline. In addition to the events mentioned there were many others. It is believed, for example, that great changes occurred in the elevation of the land at various times during the Ice Age. Often it was considerably higher than today and at other times it lay beneath the sea.

There are numerous small

ridges and hills between the Ronkonkoma and Harbor Hill moraines, composed of materials deposited when the retreating front of the Wisconsin glacier lingered temporarily.

Many of the picturesque hollows that add so greatly to the natural beauty of the island were produced when enormous chunks of ice broke away from the glacier and became buried in the surrounding sands and gravels. When these finally melted they left depressions that the geologist calls kettle holes, many of which are easily recognized today throughout the island. Some of the larger ones are filled with water, such as Lake Success, Artist Lake and Lake Ronkonkoma.

Although many of the harbors and bays that indent the North Shore, west of Port Jefferson, are believed to have been originally formed by the erosion of rivers that preceded the Ice Age, there is evidence that they were widened and much altered by the work of the glaciers.

At the close of the Ice Age vast quantities of moisture that had been locked in the glaciers was released and re-

Continued on page 237



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Remembers T. R.

At the turn of the century we lived on Skunk's Lane (today Bay Avenue), Peconic, scarcely a stone's-throw from the Davis Tut-hill General Store and sub-post office. The grand old establishment still flourishes under the able owner-management of Mrs. Mabel Richmond, a niece. One early Autumn noon I accompanied my father on his daily call for the mail. In front of the store a group of men seemed to be in serious discussion, all talking at one time. Though only a child of six, I sensed something wrong in the charged atmosphere.

In response to my father's query, a voice rose above the babel: "They've shot President McKinley! —yesterday afternoon!" Yes, a dastardly attempt upon the President's life had been made at the Buffalo exposition Friday, Sept. 6, 1901. Days later, the martyred President succumbed, murmuring at the last: "It is God's will." I remember hearing my elders say,



Theodore Roosevelt 1st

"Now Teddy Roosevelt is our President!" From that time I heard nothing but fulsome praise for this man Teddy Roosevelt, and vowed some day I must see him.

Forty-four years ago Suffolk County Fair was not only a gala event, but a veritable way of life. On Fair Week all roads led to Riverhead. There many an old acquaintance was renewed, friendship watered or long-lost cousins reunited as families gathered to eat box lunches under the spreading trees. Such was the general atmosphere on the day designated as "Teddy Roosevelt Day," in 1910.

Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt, fresh from his triumphal European tour and African big game hunt, was to speak at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. His magic name drew a gate of about ten thousand, an unheard of record until then. I had waited nine years and lo, here was my opportunity!

Needless to say, I was aboard

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the first crowded excursion train out on the great day. As always on Fair Week, Riverhead railroad station was the scene of great activity, hustle and bustle as excursion trains pulled in from Southampton, Patchogue, Huntington and New York—not to mention the main line trains from Greenport and way-stations.

Huge throngs were gathered around the speaker's stand on the Fair Grounds that afternoon. The platform was decorated in colors of red, white and blue and the band had switched from "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree" to the lively "Alexander's Ragtime Band." Just at the appointed time for the magic appearance, the milling crowd set up a roar! The great man was here.

Immediately the band struck up "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight!" This was it. He had arrived in a big black, open chauffeur-driven car with his bosom friend, Dean York, brilliant young priest of Huntington, beside him. Now the din was deafening amidst yells of "Good Old Teddy!" All the while, T.R., now standing, gleefully smiled and waved his acknowledgement.

Once on the platform and formalities dispensed with, Theodore Roosevelt, characteristically, lost no time going into action. Surrounded by various dignitaries and members of the N.Y. press, T.R. clutched his soft black campaign hat in one fist while he spoke. With his other arm he gestured forcefully as he vehemently tore into "vested interests . . . and malefactors of great wealth . . ."

At one point I gathered he was offering a bit of advice to then President William Howard Taft. With jutting jaw and teeth gleaming 'neath his sandy mustache, the redoubtable T.R. thunderingly admonished: "You'll be damned if you do; but you'll be damned if you don't!" The surging crowd went wild.

Immediately on conclusion of the address, a mass of humanity scrambled for the line now forming to shake the ex-President's hand. In the melee, I had my coat pocket torn and brand new cap trampled under the feet of the stampeding mob. But I didn't mind—hadn't I made the line! Pushed, shoved and jostled I finally found myself within sight and earshot of Teddy.

Tousle-headed, smiling he exuded his famous charm. Upon grasping each hand he would joyfully exclaim: "DEE-light-ed!" From his tone and radiant countenance it was plain he meant it, too. My turn came. What a moment it was—indeed, the thrill of a lifetime! Now the barkers were ballyhooing intrepid Prof. Hutchinson's

Continued on next page

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balloon ascension "into those vast, upper reaches of unknown space." Already he was inflating the big gas bag. Then would be the "spectac-u-lar" plunges of "King" and "Queen," the beautiful white diving horses, into a huge tank of water. Suddenly I felt, "Oh, hang the Professor!" He could go fly a kite now. The horses? They could jump in the lake if they liked. Who cared? These diversions somehow seemed rather childish and anti-climax to a boy who'd just shaken hands with a former President of the United States, and Theodore Roosevelt, no less.

On Oct. 31, 1917, I was again privileged to hear the great American speak at Camp Upton. It was an impassioned address that stirred all who heard. Now a young man of 23, I was deeply impressed, of course, but not half as thrilled as that day at Riverhead in 1910. For I was fifteen at the County Fair. In December, ex-president William Howard Taft spoke at Camp Upton in dedication of the new YMCA building. Barely one year later, the world learned of Col. Roosevelt's sudden death early on the morning of Jan. 5, 1919. Paradoxically, Theodore Roosevelt, ardent advocate of the strenuous life which he himself lived, died peacefully in his sleep. "Put out the light, please," he requested the old butler, and his voice was never heard again.

Wilson L. Glover
Southold

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Every year more and more Long Islanders are using yearly subscriptions of the Long Island Forum as Christmas gifts. They simply send us the names and addresses of the recipients, together with a check (at \$2 each) to cover the list and we do the rest.

Our special Christmas card mailed to each recipient in time for the holiday bears the giver's Yuletide Greetings. The important thing, however, is to place these orders early to insure our card being received just prior to Christmas Day.

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Thomas Moran

Continued from page 224

der the title of "See America First!"

Though he had traveled extensively in Europe, copying and interpreting Turners in the National Gallery in London and studying the Old Masters in France, Germany, and Italy as a neophyte painter, Moran finally found himself when he turned to American subjects. Convinced that "there is no phase of landscape in which we are not richer, more varied and interesting than any country in the world," he vigorously maintained as the principal tenet of his artistic credo that an artist "should paint his own land."

The range of Moran's subjects embraced skillful and faithful artistic impressions of the rugged majesty of the Rockies and the grotesque buttes of Idaho, the subtropi-

cal scenery of Florida and Old Mexico, the quiet canals and fairy-like palaces of Venice, the peaceful meadows of Kent and Sussex, and the restful stretches and storm-swept promontories of Eastern Long Island. It is these last impressions that particularly interest us. For more than forty

years he maintained a summer studio in East Hampton in a house that fronted the Town Pond on the main street, not far from "Home Sweet Home." Failing health in his last years did not prevent his making an annual trip to his Long Island home, where in his forty-foot studio during



An East Hampton Landscape From Watercolor by Cyril A. Lewis

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the months of May through November much of his work was done.

For diversion he summoned his handy-man, an Indian named George Fowler, to pilot him around Hook Pond, a quarter of a mile east of his home, in the gondola which in 1888 floated Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning through the Venetian canals. This he had purchased on a romantic impulse for 750 lire during his sojourn in Venice in 1890 and had it shipped to East Hampton. Upon his death Moran's relatives presented the gondola to the East Hampton Public Library, and it finally came to rest in the Mariners' Museum at Newport News, Virginia.

In a more practical mood he studied the pastoral scenery in and about East Hampton—the woods, the meadows, the winding roads, the windmills, and the blue summer sky—to transmute to canvas. He painted Long Island scenery under all kinds of weather conditions at all times of the day. In a Misty Morning, Apaquogue it is bathed in dull, morning light; in Sunset, Long Island, priced at \$1,700 in 1924, the brow of a rocky, tree-studded hill stands against a glowing west. In Five-Mile River, Long Island, a bare-legged boy fishes in the gray, placid river from a small, private pier on a typical

"fisherman's day" under a sky mottled with light and dark gray clouds. Nimbus clouds gather in paintings like Near Southampton, ticketed for sale in 1936 for \$1,200, and Easthampton, Long Island, depicting a view of undulating green countryside with houses and windmills. The storm spends itself in landscapes like A Summer Storm, Easthampton, depicting one of the windmills that typify a Long Island landscape, and in seascapes like Blowing a Gale, Easthampton Beach, delineating the breaking of a heavy sea.

With the passing of summer when the autumnal winds raged and the surf ran high, Moran draped his lithe, active figure in a cape coat, donned a beaver cap, and sallied forth, avid for pictorial subject matter. A wreck on the boulder-strewn shore off Montauk Point that became the subject of The Cliffs of Montauk testifies the success of his search if he turned seaward; a woman following a path through green, sandy country beside wind-blown russet and green trees in Autumn Winds, Easthampton, with a windmill sil-

houetted against dark clouds testifies the success of his search if he turned landward.

Among a plethora of oils and water-colors like Montauk Ponds, A Glimpse of Georgica Pond, and A Windy Day, Three Mile Harbor and a multitude of etchings like An Old Apple Orchard, Easthampton; The Beach, Fresh Ponds; and Looking Over the Sand Dunes, even the most ethnocentric Long Islander will find gratification and "God's plenty."

Rare L. I. Books

"Anciquities of Long Island", Gabriel Furman, 1875, with Bibliography by Henry Onderdonk, Jr.

"Loafing Down Long Island," Charles Hanson Towne, with drawings by Thomas Fogarty, 1921.

"Select Patents and Manors," Frederick Van Wyck, 1938.

"Stony Brook Secrets," Edward A. Lapham, beautifully illustrated, 1942.

"History of Long Island" in four large illustrated volumes, Henry Isham Hazelton, 1925.

Denton's "Description" 1670. Gowan's reprint 1845. Contains listing of "Early Printed American Books".

Historic Long Island (Rufus Rockwell Wilson) 1902.

For particulars write L. I. Forum or 'phone AMityville 4-0554.



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The Bark Mary and Louise

WHEN I was a little girl I loved to be taken to call at a house in East Setauket full of fascinating things—ivory balls, ball within ball, eight of them intricately carved from one solid piece; a big grinning idol head, and best of all, the chess men, kings, queens, knights, bishops and pawns carved like people in costumes of two tribes.

The castle was on an elephant like the two-tailed beast Natty Bumpo gave the Indian in Cooper's "Deerslayer." Later I found the tale that lay behind these pieces—the voyage of the bark Mary and Louise.

Back in the days when East Setauket rang with the sound of hammers, and little boys were welcome at launchings because, should the ship stick, they were set running races on her deck to work her free, there was built by Boss Bacon the bark Mary and Louise. When in 1858 she sailed for China, Captain Benjamin Jones took his wife with him, and among the crew was a 12-year old cabin-boy named Egbert Bull Smith who afterwards told about it in a book, "The Two Sisters."

A trip to China was a long and hazardous voyage in those days and the bark encountered much headwind and two hurricanes before she reached the pirate infested waters of the Malay Straits. There they were hailed by a canoe full of natives whose chief wore a high hat, frock coat and overalls. They came on board to barter, all but one man, a prisoner, who they wanted to trade for a gun. That offer being refused, they left after making sure that the bark had no cannon.

At sunset, the bark lying

Kate Wheeler Strong

becalmed, the lookout spotted 20 war canoes in the distance. Fortunately the pirates waited until dark to attack and by then a breeze had sprung up and the bark could be driven between the canoes. Many canoes were cut in two and thirty men including the chief were killed while the bark did not lose a man. The pirates' prisoner, however, escaped and was pulled aboard the bark. Captain Jones treated him kindly, and named him Sunday, and Mrs. Jones taught him English and Christianity.

Reaching China, they found that Commodore Perry had opened the doors of trade with Japan, so for two years the Mary and Louise traveled between China and Japan. In Shanghai, the man Sunday was transferred to a British battleship to serve as guide against the pirates.

As he planned to carry valuable cargo Capt. Jones had cannon placed on deck and engaged a former gunner in the British Navy to handle them. On one trip, carrying 275,000 Mexican silver dollars, the bark was chased by four junks. Her cannon sank two of them, killing thirty men, and the Chinese gunboat Confucius coming to the

rescue, captured the other two.

Captain Jones had the honor to take the first missionaries into Japan. While in China there was a revolution going on in Pekin so two of his sailors went inland to see the fun. Upon their return they presented the mate with some of the loot. He gave three embroidered chair-seats to Mrs. Jones, one of which hangs in a Setauket home. As it has an embroidered dragon with three toes, a royal design, it probably came from the imperial palace.

During its second year the bark had many adventures, once surviving a typhoon. At last clearing for home, when 46 days out of Shanghai it was hailed by a British Gunboat whose small boat brought Capt. Jones word that the pirates they had encountered two years before had been wiped out, thanks to the guidance of the man Sunday who, now an officer, was in charge of the boat that brought this message. He was delighted to see his rescuers once more.

The voyage home was a race with death as Mrs. Jones was very ill. However, they reached New York in time for her to see her family before she passed away. As for the cabin-boy, he was a hero to all the Setauket youngsters.



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Two coats and a jacket dress shown here are part of a group of original designs, created, made and modeled by students of Traphagen School of Fashion, 1680 Broadway, New York. They were seen in a fashion show given by the school at the Hotel One Fifth Avenue.

Sherry Brake (top left) wears her coat of copper wool and there is a matching sheath dress beneath. The short-jacket costume of

green-checked wool with white collar (top right) is Barbara Simke's own design. The cocktail and theatre coat (at bottom) is uniquely beautiful for its fabric as well as cut. It is of a tapestry upholstery cloth, an original design by Carol Brandt who wears it here.

These three girls, all 1954 graduates who majored in design and clothing construction, are now established in positions obtained through the Placement Bureau at Traphagen . . . and through the smartness of their designs. They joined with current pupils in presenting the showing. Most of these young people studying fashion at Traphagen plan to make it a career. However, the school looks just as proudly on its alumnae who make up a "best-dressed" group of young matrons with big savings in their pockets. The girls have an ace in the hole, too, if they want to return to the business of fashion as a profession at any later date.

Patchogue Centenarian

In the September issue of the Forum on page 173 I see an article in reference to Patchogue in 1812. What you published, I believe, is a part of an article written by Andrew Jackson Smith and sent to you by the former Geraldine Newins of Sanford, Florida.

I remember Andrew Jackson Smith very well and was very much interested in the article. Before Andrew Jackson Smith died he erected a monument to himself in Cedar Grove Cemetery (Patchogue). This monument shows that he was born February 6, 1813 and died January 19, 1913.

He had inscribed on his monument the following: "The noblest work of God is an honest man."

Sometime I would like to read the complete article.

Joseph T. Losee
Patchogue

Note: Counselor at Law Losee could himself write some interesting things of Patchogue of a later

era. His father was the proprietor of historic Losee's Hotel, now no more, and he is a brother-in-law of the late Justice Walter H. Jaycox of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

Lake Success Name

I have heard it said by an old resident that the name of Lake Success came from the Quakers in that vicinity before 1700 because they had so many converts there. Is this right? K. V. B. (Our answer: we doubt it very much.)



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Sculpturing

Continued from Page 229

turned to the oceans. This raised their general level and drowned great areas of land. This event in combination, perhaps, with the changing elevation of the land, caused the sea to invade the Sound valley to the north and encroach between the ridges to the east to form Peconic Bay between the North and South Flukes. Thus Long Island emerged as a separate entity.

Recent discoveries seem to indicate that sometime before this the Sound valley was enclosed by land to the east and existed as a lake.

During the thousands of years since the island was born its features have been greatly altered by the action of the wind, rain, waves and other natural forces to the form we know today. But this is another chapter of the story that I hope to tell in a future issue of the Forum.

Christmas Pudding

Continued from page 227

that neither she nor, one supposes, he had any idea of the quantity. It mounded upward on the kitchen table, purple, yellow, and carmine, higher than the lazy susan centerpiece, a load seemingly heavier than the deeply lathed table legs meant to bear. The children shouted for joy at its size, but Grandmother cried at what she called "the waste of it" and sobbed that nowhere could she ever borrow a pot to hold it all.

Grandfather was upset, of course, but only Grandmother's attitude distressed him. He stamped out of the house throwing on his coat and muffler against the December day. In half an hour he was back and under his

arm was a small, new wash boiler, partly filled with snow by the blustering wind.

Immediately, in his stiff-bosomed shirt with his sleeves rolled up, Grandfather turned cook. He seated Grandmother to one side and refused to hear her pleadings. Then such mixing and ladling and steaming as was ever known began. The house at first smelled pleasantly of spice, then it reeked of it, and the sickened children took their sleds and went out into the snow to be rid of it.

But when bedtime came the pudding was lifted out of the boiler in a bulging pillowcase, and Grandfather, although exhausted, saluted its plump goodness with an appropriate quotation. Moreover, Grandmother, through her tolerant love for this impractical man, had now become a partner in his holiday venture, which,

while excessive, transcended prudence in the spirit of the merriest season.

Christmas Eve came and the pudding blazed up so fiercely as Grandfather applied the taper that the jamb of the door between the kitchen and the dining room was almost scorched. Even the drafty house fingered the blue-burning glory and Grandfather's precious beard was momentarily jeopardized. The children ate pudding that night and every night through New Year's Eve yet no one grumbled — in fact, the week became memorable to them all.

A Household "Must"

The Forum is a "Must" in our household, and then we send it on to Kansas City, Missouri, to a former Long Islander, who also enjoys re-treading familiar territory.
(Mrs.) Florence M. Schwarting
West Hampton

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An Old Bay Shore Mill

The Forum's frequent references to old time mills reminds me that to the north of where the Southside Hospital at Bay Shore now stands, on the north side of Montauk highway there was within my memory a rather large pond, the outflow from which ran Edwards' gristmill. The mill, as I recall it, was to the west of the hospital property. The brook continued on across the highway which was spanned by a wooden bridge. To the side of the bridge, however, was a shallow ford through which teams with special heavy loads were driven in preference to using the bridge. Also it was a handy place to give the animals a drink of clear, cold spring water.

(Mrs.) Carrie Owens
Kings Park

Third Avenue Railway

Vincent F. Seyfried has added to his list of pamphlets on the old trolley lines of the metropolitan area with a 112-page account of Manhattan's Third Avenue Railway System from 1853 to 1953. The work includes an outline history of this system, together with accounts of equipment, and is well illustrated with old time photographs. The publisher is Felix Reifschneider, Box 774 Orlando, Florida.

It is perhaps not generally known that the Third Avenue System extended from Queens and Kings Counties on Long Island, through Manhattan, the Bronx and into Westchester as far north as White Plains.

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"Mostly Dune" It Is

The name of Miss Dorothy Quick's country home on the ocean at East Hampton is not "Only Dune" as mentioned in photo title, but "Mostly Dune," as mentioned by Miss Quick in her very interesting article in the November Forum. I guess to err is still human.

(Mrs.) Marilyn Hanley
New York

Cover to Cover

The Forum is the most interesting periodical which I receive. I read each copy from cover to cover and have learned much of interest about our Long Island. Horace K. T. Sherwood, Long Beach, Cal. (former Mayor of Glen Cove, L. I.)

Liked Mr. Coles' "Some Matinecock Place-Names" in November Forum. F. A. Frey, Forest Hills.

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Bailey's Long Island History

A limited number of sets of the Long Island History, compiled by Paul Bailey and published last year by the Lewis Historical Publishing Company of New York, has been made available through the Long Island Forum at one-third off the publishers' price.

This drastic reduction from the original price of \$46.50 is made possible by eliminating volume 3 which consists entirely of biographical sketches.

Volumes 1 and 2 comprise the complete History as compiled by Editor Bailey and written by leading authorities in every field, consisting of more than 1000 pages, 43 chapters and 200 illustrations.

These handsomely printed and bound deluxe books (size 8x10 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches) will be sent, while they last, in the same order that applications are received. Price \$30.

Besides the complete history of the island, from its discovery, including chapters on geo-

logy and archaeology, there are separate chapters on each of the towns in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, the history of the leading church denominations, whaling, fishing, shell fisheries, agriculture, medicine, banking, education, aviation and many other subjects.

Long Island Birdlife is compiled by Edwin Way Teale, nationally known authority; the island's mammals, by Dr. W. J. Hamilton, Cornell zoologist. The most extensive coverage of the island's Indians ever printed was prepared by John H. Morice. Among the authors represented are J. Russel Sprague, Dr. Oscar G. Darlington, Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood, Miss Jacqueline Overton, Rev. John K. Sharp, Chester R. Blakelock, Osborn Shaw, Herbert F. Ricard, Preston R. Bassett, Robert R. Coles, Halsey B. Knapp, Nancy Boyd Willey, Mary E. Bell—in all more than forty such authorities.

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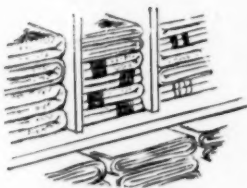
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Tangier Smith Heirlooms

I was greatly interested in Miss Strong's article (November Forum) about the Tangier Smiths, as members of that family were very good friends of my husband, the late Maurice French. He was in the U. S. Life Saving Service for some years at Smith's Point and when we were married in 1904 the "girls"—Miss Eugenie and Miss Martha Smith—gave us a present of six very lovely china cups and saucers.

I still have five of them after fifty years—one for each of our daughters as keepsakes. My late husband loved the Forum and I read every word of it.

Mrs. Maurice S. French
Islip

Well Told History

What our family and friends like most about the Forum is the way history is so well told by your various writers. You must admit that history can be very dry and perhaps that is why many young people are driven away from it.

I think the great obstacle to making local history popular is the ultra serious-minded local historian who can take a good human interest story from out the records and make it read like a sorrowful epitaph on a time-pitted grave stone in a very dismal cemetery.

All of the Forum's writers seem to have a rich appreciation of the human interest to be found in history and to make the most of it.

O. F. Whalen,
Bridgeport, Ct.

Expert Opinion

Mr. Hall and I always read the Forum with great interest and you are to be congratulated on a unique publication. I realize more and more its importance in the preservation of local history which would not otherwise come to light.

Martha K. Hall

Note: Mrs. Hall, who is librarian of the Huntington Historical Society, collaborated with other trustees of the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association in compiling the interesting pamphlet issued in honor of the poet's 135th birthday, May 31, 1954.

November issue very interesting. I liked Miss Quick's hurricane story. So true! Mrs. Frederick H. Schluter, 160 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn.

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